

British Values at Holy Cross

British Values are intrinsically linked to our mission statement "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full" John 10:10. As a Catholic community we fully support and promote the key British Values in our everyday teaching and throughout our school life.



Democracy

The school supports democratic values in various ways – both as part of our school curriculum and in an extracurricular capacity. For instance, we have an active and purposeful Leadership Academy that ensure the voices from all years are represented. Pupils' views from this forum are valued and have impacted on change within the school. The Leadership Academy regularly feeds back to their year group so all pupils understand that there is a vehicle for change within the student body.



Rule of Law

In school we have an inclusive behaviour policy to which pupils are held accountable. Rules and regulations are enforced consistently across the curriculum and pupils are aware of the consequences of failing to meet agreed expectations. The school also recognises, through its rewards system, those who exhibit exemplary standards since it is important their contributions are valued. Additionally, the school works closely with outside agencies to ensure that pupils are aware of what is expected of them as British citizens in the wider community.



Individual Liberty

We believe that all pupils should be given the opportunity to make appropriate personal choices and we offer the support and guidance to enable them to do so. Pupils have the freedom to participate in a wide range of extracurricular activities, including school productions, sports teams and whole school clubs. In Year 9 pupils enter the Options process which enables them to choose 3 options and encourages them to see their lives post 16. Within our collective worship programme there are opportunities for pupils to participate in discussions and debates during which they are encouraged to consider and express their own individual viewpoints.



Mutual Respect

Our motto of Work Hard, Love God, Be Kind ensures that we put respect at the heart of everything we do. Pupils regularly take part in charity work with international organisations such as Cafod as well as local charities that help the community in which we serve. We work tirelessly to ensure that bullying is dealt with effectively and that pupils understand who and where to go to. The school takes part in the Anti-Bullying week and runs peer mentor programmes to ensure pupils feel safe and valued in school.



Tolerance of Those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Tolerance towards those of other faiths features strongly in the R.E and Humanities curriculum, and cross-curricular activities (such as our annual Holocaust Memorial week) contribute to ensuring that our students are aware of the injustices of the past in order to encourage a tolerant outlook for the future. Elsewhere in the curriculum, literature and poetry from other cultures and traditions feature prominently in English lessons and the modern foreign languages department offers students the chance to explore the traditions of other countries, both within the curriculum and on trips.